



**International Code Council**

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March 5, 2010

The Honorable  
Senator Alan Lowenthal  
California State Capitol  
Chair, Senate Transportation  
And Housing Committee  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Lowenthal,

Thank you again for giving me the opportunity to speak before the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee about the newly adopted CALGreen Code on February 23, 2010.

As I stated in my remarks before the Committee, as Senior Vice President for the International Code Council (ICC), I have had the unique opportunity of having been involved in state code adoption processes throughout the nation. The ICC's Codes, or I-Codes, have been adopted by every state in the Nation, Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia and is used by several federal agencies, including the Departments of Defense, State, General Services Administration, the National Parks Service, the US Capitol and others.

Based on my experience, I can state, that California has one of the most open and best adoption processes. Thanks in large part to the leadership of the California Building Standards Commission's (CBSC) Executive Director, Mr. Dave Walls, California's code adoption process is inclusive and efficient. The CBSC is also made up of very experienced, passionate and knowledgeable Commissioners.

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While the CALGreen Code is a very good code, it is also new, and will certainly be reviewed and amended in future cycles. One of the common themes I heard at the February 23 hearing was concern that the CALGreen Code only applied to new construction and not existing buildings. The ICC's own International Green Construction Code (IGCC) does in fact apply to both new and existing structures. A public version of the IGCC will be in print March 15, 2010, and I would be happy to send a copy to you and your committee staff to use as a reference tool.

Thank you again for the opportunity to speak, and the ICC looks forward to its continued partnership with the state of California. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly in Washington D.C., or contact our representatives in Sacramento, The Ochoa & Moore Law Firm at (916) 447-3383.

Sincerely,



Sara Yerkes  
Senior Vice President  
Governmental Relations

Cc: Senate Transportation and Housing Committee members  
Mark Stivers, Principal Consultant, Senate Transportation and Housing Committee  
Dave Walls, Executive Director, California Building Standards Commission